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were made by the District Board President of gentlemen who were not Muslims and ultimately a Mussalman name was sent and even in spite of that the hon. Minister did not appoint the Muslim but appointed somebody else?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Member is correct in his assumption."

Moir causeway at Uttukottai.

* 1619 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the answers to question No. 1230 answered on 31st January 1929 regarding construction of the Moir causeway at Uttukottai—

(a) whether the enquiry referred to in the answer to clause (e) has been completed;

(b) the results of the enquiry and findings arrived at thereon;

(c) whether the Government have come to a decision on the efficiency of the work by the District Board authorities, and if so, what it is;

(d) whether further repairs are necessary to make the causeway permanently safe;

(e) if answer to (d) be in the affirmative, whether additional expenditure is to be incurred by the District Board for carrying out the repairs; and

(f) whether the Government have found that the contractor has executed the work in terms of the estimate and that he is not in any way liable for the damage caused?

A.—(a) No.

Access of depressed classes to wells under local bodies.

* 1620 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to question No. 631 answered on 26th November 1928—

(a) whether the Government are now in a position to say whether there are any wells or tanks in charge of the local bodies to which access is denied to members of the depressed classes; and

(b) if so, which they are?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1315 given on 1st February 1929.

Civil Justice

Alleged prosecution of certain fruit-sellers of Esplanade.

* 1621 Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to call for information and state—

(a) whether the following women fruit-sellers of Esplanade were fined Rs. 10 each on Saturday, 24th November 1928, by Mr. K. Padmanabhulu Nayudu, Honorary Magistrate:—

Thimmakka.
Peria Muniamma.
Chinna Muniamma.
Andalamma.
Latchmi Amma.
Thayimma.
Nagarathnam Ayya.
Rajamma.

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(*b*) what the offence was for which they were prosecuted and fined ;
(*c*) whether it is a fact that these women were not allowed to go out to arrange for the payment of the fine ; and
(*d*) what the alternative sentence was in each of these cases ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government do not consider it necessary to call for the information.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know why the Government say that it is unnecessary to call for the information ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because it will not serve any useful purpose particularly having regard to the trouble involved in collecting the information."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Sir, are we to be denied the information that we ask for ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Are you addressing that question to me ? " (Laughter.)

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Yes, Sir."

" Sir, do not the Government consider that they will be lowering the prestige of British justice if they allow their subordinates to fine people in such a reckless way as it has been done in the present case ? Under those circumstances will not the Government be pleased to call for the information ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It has been answered."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the fruit sellers were asked to pay their fines immediately or were allowed no time at least to go and bring the money to pay the fine imposed upon them ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I have no information, but I think it is not likely that it would have been so."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" In that case, there will be no difficulty to call for the information on that point."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I think it is important ; I shall call for the information."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know how the hon. the Law Member is not lowering the prestige of the officer concerned without calling for the information desired by the hon. Members of this House ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because he is a well qualified man and has considerable experience."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know how the answer to clause (*c*) becomes all at once important ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because in the opinion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, which I respect considerably, that information is considerably important."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I ask whether the hon. the Law Member does not consider the opinion of Dr. Mallayya as equally important when he asks these questions."

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :— "Not with reference to this particular matter."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I enquire whether the hon. the Law Member is justified in stating constantly that he refuses to call for the information on the ground of public interests ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is the question put to me ?"

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Yes, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Mumber has no right to put the question to me."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"In reply to the same question last time the Government said that they had no information and now they say they do not think it necessary to call for the same. Sir, have we no privileges ? Is it not the duty of the Government to give us the information we want in the interests of the public ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the hon. Member has got various ways of expressing his dissatisfaction on the way in which the Government answer the questions put to them, and the budget time is the best opportunity."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know whether the hon. the Law Member is replying these questions, without going into the merits of the case, but merely from a personal knowledge of the particular officer concerned ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Yes, prima facie."

Jails

Improvement of the quality of water-supplied in the Coimbatore Central Jail.

* 1622 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to improve the quality of water in the wells of the Coimbatore Central Jail, and if so, with what result ; and

(b) if no steps have so far been taken thereon, what steps Government propose to take now to give a better supply of water to the jail ?

A.—(a) & (b)—All drinking water in the jail is regularly chlorinated and the chlorinated samples are reported to be of excellent quality by the Director of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine.

State Prisoners

Release of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon.

* 1623 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether an hon. Member of this House along with another gave an undertaking as required by the Government for the purpose of getting Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon released ?